

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

President Pam Wilkinson

Co-Vice Presidents Jeff Wilkinson Peter Gellerson

> Secretary Diane Burnell

Treasurer Jim McBride

Other Members

Sharon Lamontagne Rod Bernier Tim Greer Scott Lowell Chris Micucci John Mullaney Tom Tobiassen Kevin Murphy Stephen Davis

### OUTSIDE COMMITTEES

Water Quality Bruce Micucci

Dam Keeper Bruce Micucci

Merchandise Deb Gellerson

Pirate Parade Deb Gellerson

Website Update Kevin Murphy

Data Base Assistant **Christine Godfrey** 

## Little Sebago Lake Association **Summer - 2014**

"Our mission is to protect, restore and improve our lake's water quality and fragile ecosystem. We will create and nurture a community of lake stewards, always mindful that human needs must be balanced with the needs of the natural environment."

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY!**

\*\*\* LSLA Annual Meeting - Venue Change \*\*\* St. Gregory Parish Hall, 24 North Raymond Road, Gray, ME July 12th, 2014 • Social Hour: 9:30-10:00 • Meeting: 10:00-12:00

Yes, this will be the first year that the annual meeting will not be on the lake. It is sad and we struggled trying to find that perfect spot to hold it on the lake that would allow for 100+ people. Lake access was not the problem, it was parking. You know how tight it is on the lake access roads and we felt there was not a spot that wouldn't infringe on the area and most of all create a safety hazard. But you will still be able to look out onto water! The meeting will be held at St. Gregory Parish Hall overlooking Crystal Lake in Gray. We hope that this will be a similar setting and will not discourage those from coming. It is a perfect time to meet with those you yet do not know and to rekindle conversations with those you have missed over the year. Our guest speaker is Camilla Fecteau, from the Biology Dept. at St. Joseph's College and will be discussing loons and how to develop plans to research our diminishing chick population! The location is 24 North Raymond Road, Gray, ME. It is easy to find! If you have any questions on the location please feel free to contact the association at 207-809-4706 or email us at:



LSLA NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE IN FULL COLOR ON OUR WEBSITE!

**Contact Us:** 



Little Sebago Lake Association P.O. Box 912, Windham, ME 04062-0912 info@littlesebagolake.com • 207-809-4706

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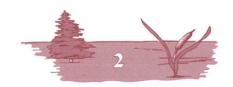
## HOPKINS DAM REPORT

Pam Wilkinson



Lake levels up! Lake levels down! Hopkins Dam, is located at the south end of the lake in Windham. The lake's level is determined by the State's DEP agreement of 1984, which mandates that the summer high of 289.2 feet above mean low tide at Portland Harbor be maintained between April 15th and October 15th. The dam is opened and the lake is lowered as much as possible during the winter months. The lowering of the lake level in the winter is to allow for flushing, to mitigate damage to the shoreline from ice, and to allow for spring rain and run off from snow melt to fill the lake again. The dedicated dam committee keeps a constant and watchful eye on the mechanics, maintenance, and adjustments and they monitor the water level throughout the year. This critical year round task has been handled by Bruce Micucci, Rod Bernier and Chris Micucci for many years and their dedication and outstanding service is appreciated.

Continued on Page 3



### Hopkins Dam Report (Continued)

Did I mention maintenance? In the words of one dam committee member, Bruce Micucci "years of legal opinions by a number of LSLA attorneys have stated that we, as owners of the dam, (meaning shoreline property owners) all share a measure of risk in the event of a major breach of the dam. The degree of risk is mitigated by good management practices, continued maintenance, and strict compliance to government regulations at all levels." An Emergency Action Plan (a State requirement) was created and is updated every two years. In monitoring the dam it was observed that there was some leakage. The committee brought it to the board of director's attention and throughout this past winter the 124 year old dam was refurbished - the first major renovation in 30 years. The project was performed by D&J Excavating and went flawlessly. The family has been part of our lake community for many years and now, we not only have a repaired dam during one of the worst winters in some time, they also provided a cost savings to all of us.



The pictures of the before and after timbers say it all. Please visit our website for excerpts of more history and other pictures. A big thank you goes to the Hopkins Dam committee and D&J Excavating for their diligence to make sure we are not at risk, the lake is not at risk and we are all able to continue to enjoy everything Little Sebago Lake offers.





## **Message From The President**

Pam Wilkinson

As we started to retreat from winter I was reminded of the 3 R's; ruthless, rugged and relentless. Winter seemed to begin in November with record cold remaining until the last day of March. March was IN like a lion and OUT like a lion! Ice out was not until April 19th. Being hunkered down for the winter allowed time to re-gear for spring. Our monthly meetings addressed the usual items of finances, database management, strategic planning while also addressing new topics: Hopkin's Dam refurbishing, finalization of the new website, watershed protection plans for the 319 grant that we received for the third time, new venue for our annual meeting in July since Aimhi is now residentially developed and concern for the dwindling loon chick count; just to list a few. Throughout this newsletter you will find expanded explanations of some of these topics. Without the dedication of our board members it would be very difficult to be president; each member spends countless hours on various tasks to make sure all the components of managing our lake are addressed. It is a pleasure to work with this ener-

getic and dedicated team; thanks to all of you. If you have any questions or comments we will be happy to address them. Enjoy you summer, it is said that it will be a hot and dry one and we could use it. The lake will be full from the snow run off and as we endured a real winter we deserve a real summer. Be safe and create lots of memories with all your fun and relaxation on the lake.





# I Remember When...

We would like to invite everyone to share your treasured stories or memories on Little Sebago Lake. So long as its tasteful, you may tell us about amazing stories or encounters with wildlife, that fish that you caught that was too big to believe, special personal memories of your friends and family, or virtually anything of interest that you'd like to share with other lake residents. Whether it's from yesterday or 50 years ago, we would love to hear from you! Please feel free to use any of the convenient options listed below:

Post on our website: www.littlesebagolake.com
Email us at: memories@littlesebagolake.com
Mail us at: Little Sebago Lake Association, P.O. Box 912, Windham, ME 04062-0912
or you may even Call us at: (207) 809-4706 and we will come to you!



## Little Sebago Lake Association 2013-2014 Budget

Parameter	Budget 2013		Actual 2013		Difference 2013		Proposed 2014		Notes:
Revenue: Donations	¢	29,000	œ.	31,683	¢	2,683	ď	32,500	
Membership Dues	\$	15,000	\$	18,325	\$	3,325	\$	18,500	
Fundraising	\$	10,000	\$	10,655	\$	655	\$	10,250	
Grant Revenue	\$	22,000	\$	26,020	\$	4,020	\$	26,280	
Interest & Dividends	\$	2,100	\$	5,012	\$	2,912	\$	2,300	а
Merchandise Revenue	\$	4,500	\$	7,940	\$	3,440	\$	7,000	u
Miscellaneous	\$	1,000	\$	159	\$	(841)	\$	200	
Total Income	\$	83,600	\$	99,794	\$	16,194	\$	97,030	
	<u> </u>	00,000	Ψ	00,104	Ψ	10,104	Ψ	31,000	
Disbursements:									
Bank Charges & PayPal	\$	250	\$	358	\$	108	\$	300	
Boats	\$	5,000	\$	7,338	\$	2,338	\$	11,000	b
Dam Maintenance	\$	10,000	\$	655	\$	(9,345)	\$	6,000	С
Fundraising Expenses	\$	700	\$	2,022	\$	1,322	\$	2,000	
Gas	\$	2,050	\$	2,279	\$	229	\$	1,650	
Insurance	\$	8,200	\$	7,897	\$	(303)	\$	8,400	
Legal & Accounting	\$	300	\$	360	\$	60	\$	400	
Licenses/Permits/Registrations	\$	65	\$	170	\$	105	\$	200	
Loon Protection	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,000	d
Merchandise Purchases	\$	5,000	\$	9,116	\$	4,116	\$	5,500	е
Milfoil supplies etc.	\$	700	\$	1,168	\$	468	\$	1,200	
Miscellaneous	\$		\$	282	\$	282	\$	300	
Office, Gifts, Rent	\$	950	\$	396	\$	(554)	\$	850	
Payroll (milfoil/boat ramp/dredging)	\$	48,350	\$	49,955	\$	1,605	\$	50,000	
Postage	\$	2,600	\$	2,176	\$	(424)	\$	2,400	
Printing	\$	3,200	\$	3,381	\$	181	\$	3,400	
Public Forums/Annual Meeting	\$	800	\$	943	\$	143	\$	1,000	
Safety Patrol Program, supplies & wardens	\$	1,300	\$	1,205	\$	(95)	\$	1,500	
Sandy Narrows Restoration	\$	2,500	\$	2,186	\$	(314)	\$	2,200	
Watershed	\$	5,000	\$	1,150	\$	(3,850)	\$	7,500	f
Website & Database	\$	9,000	\$	2,762	\$	(6,238)	\$	5,000	g
Total Expense	\$	105,965	\$	95,799	\$	(10,166)	\$	111,800	
Total Income less Expense	\$	(22,365)	\$	3,995	\$	26,360	\$	(14,770)	h

#### Notes:

- a) Interest income was doubled in 2013 due to accounting change
- b) Boat expenses increase in 2014 due repairs needed to milfoil boats
- c) Extensive repairs to the dam completed early 2014 at lower cost than assumed last year
- d) Planning for education effort & signs to protect loon population
- e) Merchandise purchases higher in 2013 to build inventory
- f) Watershed costs reflect our match for Federal grant plus remediation efforts on priority sites
- g) Major upgrade to website & database overlapped from 2013 to 2014
- h) Although the budget is not 'balanced' any funds needed at year-end will be drawn from Reserves

### Little Sebago Lake Association -- Balance Sheet as of Year-end

Assets:	sets:		2/31/12	1	12/31/13	Difference		
	Endowment	\$	5,967	\$	7,893	\$	1,926	
	Operating Account	\$	75,318	\$	22,377	\$	(52,941)	
	Reserves	\$	79,786	\$	134,797	\$	55,011	
	<b>Total Assets</b>	\$	161,071	\$	165,067	\$	3,996	
Liabilities:		\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
	Net Worth:	\$	161,071	\$	165,067	\$	3,996	

## LSLA Endowment Fund

"You make a living by what you get, but you make a life by what you give.

One of the ways that our members can support the Lake Association is through our Endowment Fund. By contributing to the Endowment Fund, your donation will go into a Merrill Lynch Managed Fund and only the interest that it earns will be used in the operating and management of Little Sebago Lake. The donation itself will perpetually be supporting the lake. We are successfully building the balance in this account through generous donations. The friends and families of Edith Caughlan, Don Lowell, and Michael Frink have all contributed to the fund in memory of their loved one. The board also expresses our heartfelt condolences to the family of our board member, Rod Morrison, who passed away this winter. We have made a contribution to the endowment fund on his behalf knowing he cared so much about his lake. A heartfelt "Thank you" to these families from the Board of Directors.

## Little Sebago Lake Association Functions & Finances

## **WHAT WE DO**

Membership

Data Base Update

Financial / Budgets

By-Law and Policy Reviews

Fund Raising

Planned Giving/Endowments

Safety Patrol Program

Boat Landing / CBI

Grant Writing

Public Forums

Town-State-Federal interactions

Road Associations Networking

Website-Newsletter-

Merchandise

Lower Narrows Restoration

Task Force

CCSWCS

Lake Fun Day

Annual Meeting Planning

Milfoil Initiative Consortium

Operations of Organization

Water Quality Testing

Dam Monitoring & Emergency

Plan

Strategic Planning

Benthic Barrier Program

Milfoil Operations

Fleet Maintenance

Organize Educational Forums



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

## WE NEED YOU! - HOW CAN YOU HELP?

There are a multitude of tasks that the Board provides; some are not fulfilled simply because there are not enough people. We welcome you to become a board member and join our monthly meetings or pick a task that has a particular interest. We have designated people beyond the board members who assist when the task is needed.

Call: **207-809-4706** or email: **info@littlesebagolake.com** to ask any questions or apply for anyone of these positions. We thank you ahead of time for your consideration!

<u>Plant Patrol Coordinator:</u> Attend the Invasive Aquatic Plant Training Wed 6/27/12 at Sebago Lake State Park and organize others to become involved to know the difference between natural and invasive plants. FMI: <u>www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org</u>

**PR/Social Media:** Assist with reaching out to local media to keep public informed of activities. Post newsworthy events on Facebook, Website and the Forum.

**Grant Writer:** Assist with grant writing. Work with milfoil coordinator who will provide information for grant application, interim report and final report to Department of Environmental Protection.

<u>Strategic Plan Task Coordinator:</u> To work with the board to implement action items identified at the annual strategic plan meeting.

# Membership Address <u>Updates</u>

Please contact:
Diane Burnell via email at:
dburnell@littlesebago.com
with corrections to address.

# Plant Give Away at the Annual Meeting

Once again — with the help of O'Donal's Nursery we will be providing 100 large 10 inch potted native plants for you to improve your buffer with. First come — first served to any dues paying member.

## **Dues Notice**

Be on the look out for your annual bill and raffle tickets. Dues will remain at \$25.00 this year and anything over that may be considered a tax deductible contribution. Please do your part to help support your lake. We as a board, are limited by the funds made available each year. Please donate generously to help us help you preserve and protect your lake



# "2014 LSLA FUND RAISER"





and win Great Prizes
by sending in those Raffle Tickets





Drawing to be held on Saturday, July 12, 2014 during "The Annual Meeting" at our new meeting location.

1st Prize Surge 11.4 Paddleboard with Paddle (shown above to the left).

Old Town Heron 9 (shown directly above).



3rd Prize E-Z Up® Gazebo (shown above to the right).

Help our fund raising efforts by contacting us to purchase our raffle tickets, by calling 207-809-4706 or emailing us at info@littlesebagolake.com



# ME INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE

## **BOATING SAFETY COURSE**

{This is a NASBLA (NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SMALL BOAT LAW ADMINISTRATORS) APPROVED COURSE}

This course is a repeat of the very successful one that we offered last year. The date, time and place will be determined, please check our website later this spring.

Little Sebago Lake Association is sponsoring the event and it is free to the first 20 dues paying members who register and all young adults under the age of 20.

Interested persons should contact Sharon Lamontagne at: slamontagne@littlesebagolake.net

Students 10-12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian during the full program.

Maximum capacity: 40 students

## Authorized instructors are donating their time to the cause of greater outdoor safety.

If special accommodations are required due to disability, please contact me no later than 1 week prior to program date.

The Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife programs and activities are operated free from discrimination in regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.



## Summer of 2014 Milfoil Militia Program Pam Wilkinson

LOCATION	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	TOTAL
UPPER BASIN-GRAY	271	215	390	241	182	86	314.5	1,699.5
TWIN BROOKS-GRAY	55	62	58	54	17	50	25.75	321.75
BEAVER COVE-GRAY	91	63	9	2	7	10	49	231.
MUMFORD COVE-GRAY	133	97	296	47	16	13	33.5	635.50
LOWER BASIN WINDHAM	710	1,332	967	1,491	500	954	760.75	6,714.75
BEAN ISLAND	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	6
BAG TOTALS	1,260	1,769	1,720	1,835	722	1,116	1,186.5	9,608.50
AMOUNT SPENT	67,296.36	55,651.90	51,580.26	67,265.60	48,350.18	46,253.82	51,507.84	387,905.76
VOLUNTEER TIME	9,255.00	9,260.00	13,786.00	17,046.42	12,466.32	13,300.68	13,909.84	89,024.26
TOTAL	76,551.36	64,911.90	65,366.26	84,312.02	60,816.50	59,554.50	65,417.68	476,930.22

2013 Approximately 12 Tons of Milfoil removed / To Date: Approximately 96 tons of milfoil removed. Calculation Key: Each bag equal approx. 20 lbs dry weight.

The beginning of June our program will be to re-visit all milfoil areas defined on our existing map and assess all littoral zones.

We will begin with surveying past milfoil beds identified on the map as well as new areas reported last year. Our program will begin with one suction dredge working in the upper basin if needed and one in the lower basin. A new approach to the



George Gheradi & Tim Greer next to new motor in "Hippo 1".

Upper Basin may be we use a method of only a diver and an assistant to hand pull milfoil. This will begin our cost reduction approach that we have been looking for. Once the Upper Basin and the Narrows have been groomed the suction dredge will move north to Beaver Cove, Bean Island and Mumford cove to remove any milfoil in identified beds. The suction dredge will then meet the second dredge in the Lower Basin to work. The beds in the upper and middle lakes will be monitored while the two dredges are working in the lower basin. Assessment of the shallow coves in the upper basin will be done to see if benthic barriers should be applied after the milfoil has been removed. Implementation of GPS tracking and mapping will start this year to track extraction beds as well track new areas of milfoil.

If you see suspicious plant activity please mark the area, notify us and we will respond to let you know if it is native or invasive. It is very important that you do not rake it up; this only encourages new and increased growth of variable milfoil. All the root structure needs to be removed.

Our fleet this year is getting some much needed updating. Our crews deserve equipment that



## Summer of 2014 Milfoil Militia Program (Cont.) Pam Wilkinson

allows them to do their job and not be faced with down time or challenges to getting to shore when inclement weather approaches. A few years ago the Vance's donated a motor for one of the HIPPO's (Hydraulic Invasive Plant Processing Operation). The other HIPPO experienced problems last year with motor and control issues. Through your generous donations and the efforts of Tim Greer approaching George Gherard of White Rock Outboard, Inc., we have a new Big Foot motor for

the second suction dredge. White Rock contacted their distributor, explained our program and they gave us a very generous discount which included new controls. White Rock also is doing the work to put it all together. The crew will be very excited to work without challenges! It will save a lot of down time and extra expense of continuously running the motor for fear it will not start. We are very thankful for all these efforts!

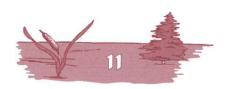


## **Membership Update**

Stephen Davis

This year the board has worked hard to update our membership list and a list of people who live along our lake. We do this for 2 reasons. First, so we can inform everyone of pertinent information. Secondly, because of the many initiatives we engage in to keep the lake healthy, it takes some money. These include regulating the dam runoff, successful efforts to mitigate the invasive variable milfoil, water oxygenation, fish stock, safety, and dredging the narrows, to list a few of the tasks. Our dues are modest, but only about half of available households join the association. In large part because our records are incomplete or faulty. There are 19 road associations and they serve as our primary source of information. Despite repeated pleas for membership lists to cross check our efforts on making sure our list is correct 7 road associations sent us their updated information; Many Oaks, Sabbady Point, Westwood, Skilling, Sandbar, Latimer, and Ramsdell. We want to thank them. Others included

those who never responded, those who said they would send the information but did not, and 2 who declined for privacy issues. It should be noted that the information is public record at town hall and we did ultimately gather most of what we needed at the assessors offices, albeit with more time and effort for our volunteers. We are finding even the town offices efforts to update transfer of properties can be delayed as much as six months. We hope that you, the road and lake association members, can encourage your road association leadership to provide more assistance to us the next time around so we can send the newsletter effectively and efficiently to keep you informed. In any event we labor onward and hope you feel we are doing a good job in getting information to you about our lake. Ask your neighbor if they have received a newsletter and, if not, have them contact us and we would gladly put them on our mailing list.

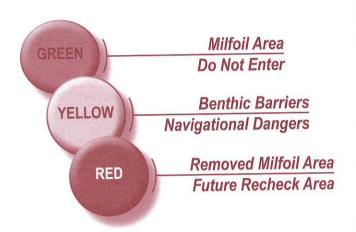


# Milfoil Militia

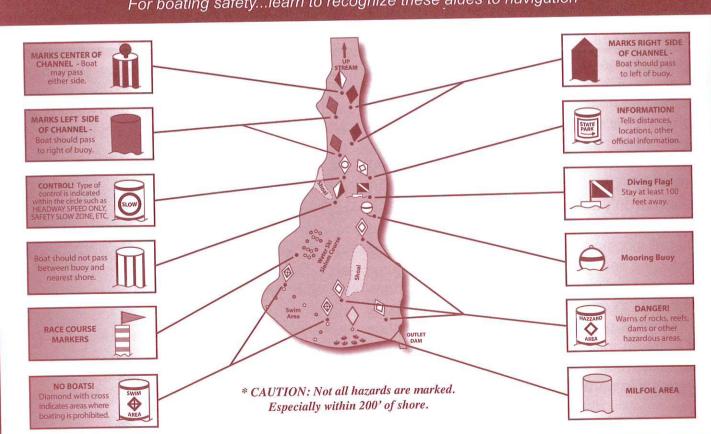
Help us watch for milfoil in Little Sebago Lake and keep the natural vegetation in it's place to discourage milfoil growth.

For any questions or to report milfoil sightings in your area, call Pam Wilkinson (LSLA) at: 428-3732, or email her at: pwilkinson@littlesebagolake.com

Stop Sign "Polk-A-Dot" Campaign Noodle Markers ~ What do they mean?

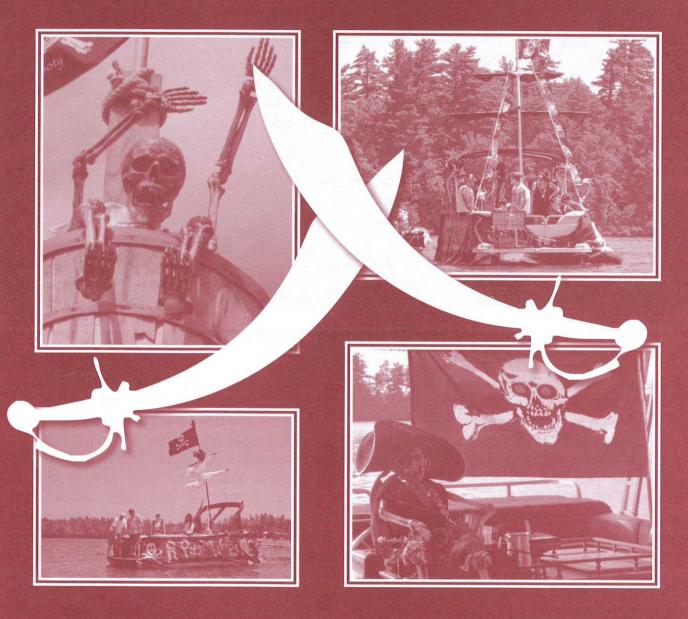


# Maine Aides to Navigation System For boating safety...learn to recognize these aides to navigation



For more information or Questions Call Rod Bernier (LSLA) at: 809-4706 or Email him at: rbernier@littlesebagolake.com

# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Pirate Parabe Ahhh maties!



repare your ship for a fun filled day July 19th for the Pirate Parade. The parade will begin at 12:00 sharp at the Lower Narrows and proceed to Pirate Cove Sand Bar for volley ball and frolic. We would like to remind everyone to do your best to keep safe distances from other boats to avoid dangerous situations as there will be many young children everywhere. A suggestion is to use water guns when stationary to avoid harmful situations. Can't wait to see you all there!

# Display your decal with Pride!

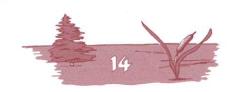


All of you should have recently received your LSLA Membership Decal along with your annual dues letter. The decal should be located on the exterior of your boat, anywhere above the water line. This will identify you as paid active member of the Little Sebago Lake Association. This decal will also help you to identify other members as well. We are looking forward to seeing you out there on the lake with your decal this summer!

## **Plant Patrol Program**

Pam Wilkinson

It has been a goal to implement a coordinated plant patrol program for a long time. While efforts have been organized to mitigate the invasive variable milfoil from our lake, we also need a back-up program to identify other potential areas and perhaps other possible invasives. It is time to reach out to our membership to encourage this program to happen. Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) established a training program in 2002 and have guides for education and implementation of this type of program. With some training and coordination Little Sebago Lake can add another layer of protection for our lake. We are half way there when we are paddling in our kayaks, canoes or on our paddle boards. Knowing what to look for is the next simple step. It would be ideal to have sections of the lake divided into quadrants and have people in those sections patrol the areas a few times during the summer. It would be even nicer to have a person coordinate this but for now, just to get the program going we can start simple and build. If you have any interest please visit VLMP Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program, www.mainevImp.org for explanation of the various programs and training dates. If you have other questions please call 207-809-4706 or email pwilkinson@littlesebagolake. com. This is a great way to know more, get a closer look at your lake, and add to your community of lake friends!



## **Safety Patrol Program**

The LSLA Patrol Boat will once again be out on the lake this summer during the busiest times of the season. We hope to expand the use of the boat and use it for promotions, education, and public relations as well as a vehicle for the Cumberland County Sheriffs to be out on the water as much as possible. The more we are out, the more well behaved our boaters tend to be! We have seen a reduction in the number of

citations for speed, registrations, and the correct number of life preservers on board. Just knowing that the sheriffs might be out, causes more people to actually think about all of these things before they leave their docks.

We also enjoy rewarding those that do follow all of the rules of the water and we will once again be generous with gift certificates for free pizza from Pizza Hut!



## Little Sebago Lake Fish Stocking Reports 2002 - 2013

### **Spring 2002:**

18 Brown Trout 22" – 24" 22 Rainbow Trout 14" – 16"

#### Fall 2002:

1500 Brown Trout 12" – 14" 150 Rainbow Trout 12" – 14" 30 Brown Trout 22" – 24"

#### Fall 2003:

1500 Brown Trout 12" – 14" 150 Rainbow Trout 14" – 16" 10 Brown Trout 22" – 24"

#### Fall 2004:

1200 Brown Trout 12" – 14" 150 Rainbow Trout 14" – 16" 75 Brown Trout 18" – 20"

#### Fall 2005:

1500 Brown Trout 10" – 12" 500 Rainbow Trout 12" – 14"

#### Fall 2006:

1500 Brown Trout 12" – 14" 700 Rainbow Trout 6" – 8"

#### Fall 2007:

1500 Brown Trout 12"

#### Fall 2008:

1000 Brown Trout 13" 700 Rainbow Trout 14"

#### Fall 2009:

1000 Brown Trout 12" 700 Rainbow Trout 14"

### Fall 2010:

1000 Brown Trout 14" 700 Rainbow Trout 14"

#### Fall 2011:

1000 Rainbow Trout 13" 700 Brown Trout 14"

#### Fall 2012:

1000 Brown Trout 13" 700 Rainbow Trout 14"

#### Fall 2013:

1000 Brown Trout 12" 700 Rainbow Trout 14"





## Little Sebago Lake Association

16°F



About Us The Lake Gift Shop Join Us Events News Blog Resources Contact



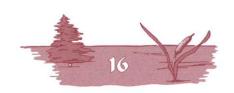


# The New "LittleSebagoLake.com" Website Has Launched!

After months of planning, building, testing, and refining, the new Little Sebago Lake Association's website is done! The new site was designed with you, our valued members, in mind. We wanted a new website that would be easy to find the information you want, be easy for our webmaster to keep current, and to be easy to scale up as needs arise.

We hope you visit the new site frequently. One new featured area is our blog section. This is not articles from the Board, but stories from members telling of times gone by on the lake. We encourage anyone who can contribute to please do so, you can send your stories to *memories@littlesebagolake.com*. The more, the better this new section will be. Think of it as our own history book for the lake we all love. We want your stories!

We really would like to hear your feedback on how well we did with the new website or what we can do to further enhance the user experience. We have a Contact Us form on the site or you can email us at *info@littlesebagolake*. *com*. We hope you enjoy your new site as much as we do and are looking forward to your input.



## FIREWORKS - DID YOU KNOW?

It seems the excitement of looking forward to fireworks on July 4<sup>th</sup> has been diminished by routine weekend displays. While very pretty, it has impacts to neighbors and wildlife, especially our loons. You probably cannot hear their cry after each boom, but take a moment to listen in between each round. Please be safe, respectful and obey the laws.

Richard Shepard, Senior Investigator with the State Fire Marshall's office gave an overview of the legalization of fireworks in Maine. Their office was asked to educate the public and public safety departments regarding fireworks. There has been a positive financial benefit to the state.

### Some highlights include:

- 1. There are over 12 licensed fireworks stores and he gave an overview of the sale of consumer fireworks.
- 2. Stores must have a federal license under Title 18 United States Code, Section 843, and state permitting. Communities may also have local permitting if they wish.
- 3. Maine law requires that it must be a permanent, fixed stand-alone, sprinklered building 60 feet from any adjacent building and 300 feet from any storage or dispensing of gasoline etc and solely for the sale of consumer fireworks.
- 4. There are some potential firefighter safety issues and these are issues that are being addressed by the legislature. He outlined the licensing fees and insurance and restrictions on what is permitted and not permitted in the store.
- 5. By State Law fireworks are permitted -Daily 9am-10pm, exceptions July 4<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> (and weekend preceding and immediately following these dates) can be until 12:30am. Fireworks must be on your own property (if you rent property, you must get permission of the owner). He outlined the restrictions, illegal fireworks and that there is civil liability if someone commits an offense.
- 6. Municipalities can enact more restrictions than the law if they wish, conduct public safety meetings for the public.

Areas of concerns: consumer transportation once purchased, consumer storage, safe distances, consumer safety practices, and weather conditions (wind in particular) were not addressed. Increase in nuisance calls, fire and EMS incidents.

Richard Shepard stated that storage should be in a dry, safe place, like a shed, and not in the home. Richard Shepard stated there are some challenges regarding enforcement if a municipality passes a stricter ordinance and doesn't have a significant law enforcement mechanism in the community.



## **Ice Fishing Derby**

Jeff Wilkinson

An ice fishing derby was held on Little Sebago Lake from Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014, to Sunday March 2, 2014. It was organized by Wayne Berzinis, owner of Sebago Bait in Windham, and the proceeds benefited the Windham Food Pantry.

With some very nice prizes offered and a low ticket price, this was an excellent opportunity to win a \$400 cash prize or a donation of \$500 to the charity of the winner's choice. Five rainbow trout were tagged and released in five different locations on Little Sebago Lake.

A total of sixty tickets were purchased, but not one of the tagged fish was caught. They are still out there, but they won't bring any prizes! A prize of a three night stay at Moosehead Lake was won by a lucky seven year old boy from Portland, and a one

hour plane ride was won by a man from Denmark, Maine.

For a first year event, this derby went well, but the best part is that the \$600 in entry fees will be

matched by the Dollar Tree store in Windham! The \$1200 will be spent at the Dollar Tree store to purchase staples badly needed by the Windham Food Pantry. Things such as soap, toothbrushes, and cleaning supplies are needed, as well as food, so this effort will be a big help.

What a great way to support your community and have fun at the same time! Next year will be even bigger, so remember to check our Little Sebago Lake website often at www.littlesebagolake.com.



### **Public Boat Launch**

Pam Wilkinson

Jackie and Jimmy Fitzgerald will be returning for another season as our Courtesy Boat Inspectors. In addition to inspections, Jimmy and Jackie keep the Public Boat Launch in good shape, handout informational brochures and sell LSLA promotional items.

### Newsletter

If you prefer to only receive the newsletter as an email then please contact us. Just email your request to *info@littlesebagolake.com* or call 207-809-4706 and your request will be handled. If you did not receive one we encourage you to contact us to make sure you get a newsletter next time.

## Something New in our Little Sebago Lake Retail Store

LLBean tote- large boat tote, holds up to 500 pounds, so they will fit lots of beverages! Please advertise them for \$40.00 each tax included.

We continue to offer other items that will fit from x-small to x-large. Please visit our website to view all the items for you or for a special gift to that special person. Check us out at: www.littlesebagolake.com or contact Deb Gellerson at shewee@aol.com.







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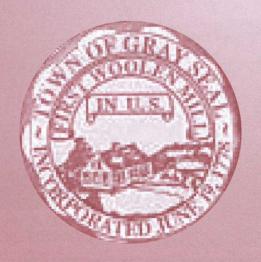
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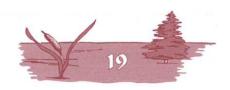
Androscoggin Bank of Gray for the use of their facility for monthly board meetings

White Rock Outboard, Inc. for all of their support keeping our boats on the water

The Town of Gray & Windham for your budgetary financial approvals







Little Sebago Lake Association PO Box 912 Windham, ME 04062

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We would like to thank all of you for your past, present and future support of the Little Sebago Lake Association. Through your combined efforts and sustained dedication, we have one of the healthiest, cleanest and most beautiful lakes in Maine for all of us, and for generations to come.